

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 10-20 are pending in the instant patent application. Claim 9 has been canceled. Claim 8 has been amended to include allowable material of Claim 9. Claims 10, 11, and 12 have been amended to depend from Claim 8 instead of Claim 9. No new matter has been added as a result of the amendments.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner indicated that Claims 1-7 and 13-20 are allowed. The Examiner also indicated that Claims 9-12 contained allowable subject matter and were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Independent Claim 8 has been rewritten to incorporate the allowable subject matter of Claim 9. Claim 9 has been cancelled. Claims 10-12 have been amended to depend from independent Claim 8, and are believed to be allowable due to their dependence on base Claim 8, which contains allowable subject matter.

REJECTION

35 U.S.C §102

Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by Wu et al. US Patent No. 6,542,026. The Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection

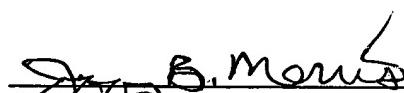
of record to Claim 8 has been overcome by the amendment of independent Claim 8 to contain subject matter from Claim 9 that the Examiner has indicated as allowable.

SUMMARY

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims in the instant patent application are in condition for allowance. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the Application and allowance of the pending claims. If the Examiner determines the prompt allowance of these claims could be facilitated by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' designated representative at the below listed phone number.

Respectfully submitted,
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